

NL INDUSTRIES/TARACORP SUPERFUND SITE GROUP

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July 2, 2018

By Electronic Mail and First Class Mail

Ms. Sheri L. Bianchin
 Remedial Project Manager
 Institutional Controls Coordinator
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5
 77 West Jackson Boulevard (SR-6J)
 Chicago, IL 60604

**Re: NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site; Granite City, Illinois
 Consent Decree – Quarterly Progress Report 50 (April-June 2018)**

Dear Ms. Bianchin:

As required by the Consent Decree for the NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site (the “site”), two copies of this letter are submitted, on behalf of the NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site Group (“Group”), to provide the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) with a quarterly progress report for activities performed during the period from April-June 2018.

1. Actions Taken During Previous Quarter to Comply with the Consent Decree:

- **Institutional Controls:** During June 2018, the Group received and initiated efforts to review EPA's comments on the draft environmental covenant for the Taracorp property, the draft Institutional Controls Work Plan, and the Group's August 7, 2017 memorandum regarding remote fill properties. The Group's project coordinator continued to update the draft Institutional Controls Work Plan.
- **Visual Canvassing Report:** During June 2018, the Group received and initiated efforts to review EPA's comments on the Group's January 9, 2017 assessment of the Visual Canvassing Report prepared by the Group's consultant, Environmental Works, Inc.
- **Operation and Maintenance:** During the April-June 2018 period, the following operation and maintenance activities were performed at the site:

May 21	The Group's project coordinator spoke to the Granite City Sanitation Department's representative regarding the Group's 2018 plans for cutting vegetation on the NO NON- property.
May 22	The Group's contractor, Munie Greencare Professionals (“Munie”), cut the vegetation on the NON- property and areas around the Taracorp pile.
May 29	The Group's project coordinator sent a notice to Beelman Truck Company's representative to confirm access for the June 4, 2018 operation and maintenance inspection.

June 4	The Group's project coordinator performed a semi-annual operation and maintenance inspection at the site.
June 11	The Group's project coordinator sent an email and letter to EPA to provide log sheets and photographs documenting the results of the semi-annual operation and maintenance inspection performed at the site on June 4, 2018.
June 12	The Group's project coordinator sent an email to the operator of All Pallet Service to request that All Pallet Service repair the broken fence post, broken barbed wire, and bent sections of the fence around the perimeter of the Taracorp pile property and also address pallet storage and handling practices with All Pallet Service's personnel. The operator of All Pallet Service acknowledged that the work would be performed.
June 12	The Group's project coordinator sent a copy of the operation and maintenance inspection report to Beelman Trucking, at the request of Beelman Trucking, to document the results of the June 4, 2018 operation and maintenance inspection at Slough Road.

- **Project Coordination:** During the April-June 2018 period and in addition to items previously noted, the Group's project coordinator communicated with the following parties regarding work at the site:

April 6	Submitted Quarterly Progress Report 49 to EPA.
April 12	Spoke to Illinois EPA's representative regarding the status of work at the site.
June 12	Spoke to EPA's project manager regarding the draft environmental covenant for the Taracorp property, the draft Institutional Controls Work Plan, the draft Contingency Measures Work Plan, the Group's August 2017 memorandum regarding remote fill properties, and EPA's five-year review.
June 22	Following receipt of EPA's June 2018 comments on the draft environmental covenant for the Taracorp pile property, the draft Institutional Controls Work Plan, the Group's August 7, 2017 memorandum regarding remote fill properties, and the Visual Canvassing Report, the Group's project coordinator sent an email to EPA's project manager to request a conference call to discuss EPA's comments.

2. Summary of Data and/or Results of Sampling and Tests Received:

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

3. Work Plans, Plans, and Other Deliverables Completed and Submitted to EPA During the Previous Quarter:

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

4. Actions, Data Collection, and Implementation of Work Plans and Other Information Related to the Progress of Construction which are Scheduled to be Performed During the Next Six-Week Period:

- The Group will continue to perform operation and maintenance activities at the site, as required. The Group's project coordinator will continue to update the Operation and Maintenance Plan.

- The Group anticipates that a conference call will be held with EPA to discuss EPA's comments on the draft environmental covenant for the Taracorp pile property, the draft Institutional Controls Work Plan, the Group's August 7, 2017 memorandum regarding remote fill properties, and the Visual Canvassing Report. The Group will continue to address EPA's comments and perform other follow-up actions as necessary.
- The Group will address comments, if any are received from EPA, in regard to the Five-Year Review Groundwater Monitoring Report, which was submitted to EPA on August 11, 2014 to summarize the results of the April 2014 groundwater monitoring event. The Group will initiate efforts to prepare for the 2018-2019 groundwater sampling event.
- The Group will address comments, if any are received from EPA, in regard to: (1) the Soil Sampling and Analysis Report, which was submitted to EPA in January 2014 to document the results from soil sampling activities at 73 residential properties in April – May 2011, September 2012, June 2013, and October 2013; (2) the Soil Sampling and Analysis Report Addendum, which was submitted to EPA in December 2015 to document the results of soil sampling performed on three residential properties **NON-RESPONSIVE** in June 2015 and one residential property **NON-RESPONSIVE** in November 2015; and (3) the Soil Sampling and Analysis Report Addendum No. 2, which was submitted to EPA in September 2016 to document the results of soil sampling activities performed on three residential properties **NON-RESPONSIVE** in August 2016.

5. Problems Encountered, Anticipated Problems, Actual or Anticipated Delays, and Efforts Developed or Implemented to Mitigate Delays:

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

6. Modifications to Work Plans or Schedules Proposed to EPA or Approved by EPA:

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

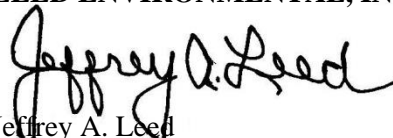
7. Community Relations Activities During Previous Month or to be Undertaken During Next Six-Week Period:

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

Should you or your staff have questions or comments regarding this progress report, please contact this office at (610) 670-7310.

Very truly yours,

LEED ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.


Jeffrey A. Leed
Project Coordinator

Ms. Sheri Bianchin

July 2, 2018

Page 4

cc: Nicole Wood-Chi, Esq. – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (by electronic mail)
Christopher Grubb, Esq. – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (by electronic mail)
Mr. Brian Conrath - Illinois EPA (by electronic mail and first class mail)
Mr. Tom Miller – Illinois EPA (by electronic mail)
Technical Committee, NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site Group (by electronic mail)